

## III. REMARKS

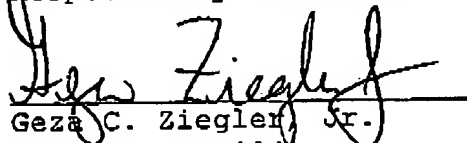
Claims 7-12 and 14-22 are cancelled without prejudice.

Applicant appreciates the Examiner's indication of the allowability of claim 1-6 which remain in the application.

For all of the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims now present in the application are clearly novel and patentable over the prior art of record, and are in proper form for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested. Should any unresolved issues remain, the Examiner is invited to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with this communication or credit any over payment to Deposit Account No. 24-0037.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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29 July 2004  
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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted by facsimile to (703) 872-9306 on the date indicated below.

Date: July 29, 2004

Signature: Laura Perregue